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SUBJ/PUBLIC AFFAIRS-NAVAL SERVICE MEDICAL NEWS (NSMN) (93-40)//
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RMKS/1. THIS SERVICE IS FOR GENERAL DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION AND NEWS OF INTEREST TO NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEMBERS, CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES, DEPENDENTS, AND RETIRED BENEFICIARIES OF NAVY MEDICINE. MAXIMUM AND TIMELY REDISTRIBUTION OR FURTHER REPRODUCTION AND USE BY ACTION ADDRESSEES IS ENCOURAGED. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS (CMC). THE COMMANDANT HAS AUTHORIZED TRANSMISSION TO MARINE CORPS ACTIVITIES.

2. RESPECTFULLY REQUEST FLEET COMMANDERS READD TO SHIPS AND OTHER SUBORDINATES WITH MEDICAL PERSONNEL, AS OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS PERMIT.

3. HEADLINES AND GENERAL INTEREST STORIES THIS WEEK:
(930394)-CORPSMAN KEY IN RESCUING ROCK CLIMBER
(930395)-CORPSMAN UP -- AND READY
(930396)-NAVAL HOSPITAL CAMP LEJEUNE OPENS PHARMACY ANNEX
(930397)-RESERVE PARTICIPATION SOUGHT FOR HEALTH PROMOTION
(930398)-CLAIM-FILING RULES TO CHANGE; LOCATIONS STILL SAME
(930399)-MEDICAL MATERIEL MANAGER OF THE YEAR NEEDED
(930400)-CASES OF ADOLESCENT CHILD ABUSE INCREASING
(930401)-HEALTHWATCH: POSTERS AVAILABLE TARGETING SNUFF USERS

HEADLINE: Corpsman Key in Rescuing Rock Climber

NAVSTA San Diego (NSMN) -- Hospitalman Frank Cannon was rock climbing with friends in Mission Gorge Park near San Diego last month when he heard shouts that a climber had fallen. Disregarding his own safety, he braved a steep incline and unstable footing to come to the aid of the injured man. Cannon found ENS Dave Bostic lying in the brush; he had fallen nearly 70 feet when equipment failure caused his line to give way.

Concerned about the possibility of a C-spine injury, Cannon immediately stabilized the patient's neck using a towel as a makeshift cervical collar. An assessment of the patient revealed a severe head laceration, a probable broken wrist, and back and hip injuries. Cannon stabilized the patient's fractures, applied pressure to the open wound, and monitored his vital signs while waiting for help to arrive.

The patient's injuries and his precarious hillside position necessitated helicopter evacuation. Cannon provided able assistance to emergency medical personnel in placing Bostic on a litter and loading him into the helicopter. All medical personnel involved agreed that the actions of Cannon were instrumental in stabilizing the patient and preventing further

injury.

Cannon, modest about taking credit for his efforts, said, "I was just doing my job -- the training I've gotten from Doctor Denison (COMDESRON 13 medical officer) and in Hospital Corps School made all the difference that day."

Cannon's efforts in the 4 September incident reflect great credit upon the Navy, himself and his medical training; he has been nominated for the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for his heroic actions.

-USN-

HEADLINE: Corpsman Up -- And Ready

NAVHOSP Groton, RI (NSMN) -- It has been said that a corpsman's job is never done, and never dull. On 1 October 1993, Hospitalman Michelle Bellevue, of Naval Hospital Groton, began her evening shift with turnover, assessment of the patients waiting to be seen in the Hospital Emergency Room and some small talk with her peers.

Thirty short minutes later came a call for an ambulance. A civilian worker had fallen 15 feet from a ladder at the Submarine Base's Pier 15 dry dock. Bellevue responded with little hesitation and was prepared for the usual mystery that lies beyond each emergency call. On arrival, the SubBase Fire Department had secured the scene and had placed the patient in a splint. Bellevue assessed her patient and then asked that he be secured to a Stokes Litter and placed in a cervical collar, which was all a matter of routine in these instances.

Once secured to the litter, the patient was set for extrication from the vessel. Bellevue proceeded to the pier and waited for the four firemen to carry the litter-bound patient down a makeshift wooden brow. Although the brow was set to sustain some 3000 pounds per plank, it "bowed" and "flipped" when the firemen were about a third of the way down -- plummeting rescuers and patient into the 50-degree Thames River below. Without regard to her personal safety, Bellevue jumped into the river to ensure the safety of her patient and the others. She stayed with the patient until he was hoisted from the river, still secured to the Stokes litter.

Bellevue describes the event as being part of her job. "Our patients are our biggest concern, and all I could think of is that the patient would sink under the water bound to the litter," she said. "It was my job to save him."

On 6 October, the hospital's commanding officer awarded Bellevue the Navy Achievement Medal for her selfless devotion to duty and, most of all, to her patient. The award was presented along with colors being rendered in her honor. It all came as a surprise to Bellevue. It just goes to show you that a corpsman never knows what to expect.

Story by Naval Hospital Groton Public Affairs Office

-USN-

HEADLINE: Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune Opens Pharmacy Annex

NAVHOSP Camp Lejeune, NC (NSMN) -- Last month's Grand Opening of the new Marine Corps Exchange Complex on Marine Corps

Base Camp Lejeune included the unveiling of Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune's new Pharmacy Annex. The Pharmacy Annex is located in the mall complex between the commissary and what is now the largest Marine Corps Exchange in the world.

At the 30 September Grand Opening, BGEN L.H. Livingstone, commanding general of the base, said, "The addition of the Pharmacy Annex contributes greatly to the one-stop shopping concept." Military pharmacists, hospital corpsmen and Red Cross workers staff the new pharmacy location, which currently processes all refills.

This new Pharmacy Annex is state-of-the-art, with an automatic phone-in refill system and full CHCS capability. CHCS, the Composite Health Care System, has given the naval hospital the flexibility to operate closely with the main pharmacy and provides potential for expanding services at this new location in the future.

Story by LT Jeff Plummer, MSC

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HEADLINE: Reserve Participation Sought for Health Promotion

NEHC Norfolk, VA (NSMN) -- The Bureau of Medicine and Surgery offers Naval Reservists exciting temporary duty opportunities in the Navy Health Promotion Program. The primary goal of the program is to improve and maintain the highest levels of unit readiness. This includes concentrating on increasing individual fitness by identifying and minimizing health risks and disabilities.

There are a variety of projects in Navy Health Promotion that may be of interest to Naval Reservists. For example, at the Navy Environment Health Center (NEHC), Norfolk, the Navy's lead organization for health promotion, a Reservist could assist in developing information resource databases; building program infrastructure; developing tools for risk reduction intervention determinations; building successful intervention programs using demonstration sites; and coordinating health promotion program policy. Other opportunities exist at medical treatment facilities in the areas of program development, implementation and evaluation.

Temporary Duty Training in the Health Promotion Program can be done in a variety of ways. A Naval Reservist may choose from among the following: training during inactive duty periods; Annual Training (AT); Active Duty for Training (ADT); and Active Duty for Special Work (ADSW). This type of mutual support training is most advantageous to the active command in that it offers a source of additional personnel during periods of increased workload, reduced staffing or limited availability of assets.

The Health Promotion Department at NEHC is currently developing a database of Naval Reservists with health promotion experience. If you are interested in working with the Navy Medical Department's Health Promotion Program, please contact LCDR John Moorhead or Mrs. Becky Washburn via the following address and phone number:

Commanding Officer

Navy Environmental Health Center, Code-00HP
2510 Walmer Ave., Suite A
Norfolk, VA 23513-2617
(804) 444-7575, ext. 264
DSN 564-7575, ext. 264
Fax (804) 444-3672; DSN 564-3672
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HEADLINE: Claim-Filing Rules to Change; Locations Still Same
BUMED Washington (NSMN) -- You'll have less time to file a claim with the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services for care and services you receive in 1994. Unlike previous years, when you had until the end of the next year to file a claim, starting on 1 January 1994, claims must be filed with the appropriate CHAMPUS contractor no later than one year after the services are provided. In the case of inpatient care, the claim must be filed within one year of the date the patient is discharged from the inpatient facility.

Where to file claims hasn't changed. The "appropriate CHAMPUS contractor" depends on where you receive care, except for residents of California and Hawaii, and non-residents traveling in those states.

Beneficiaries (except CHAMPVA) who live in California or Hawaii will always file with:

-- Foundation Health Federal Services
P.O. Box 1810
ATTN: Claims Department
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
1-800-824-1896.

Beneficiaries who live outside California, but who receive care in California; CHAMPVA beneficiaries; and participants of the Home Health Care Demonstration in California should file claims with:

-- Blue Cross/Blue Shield of South Carolina (BC/BSSC)
P.O. Box 100502
Florence, SC 29501-0502
1-800-334-0308

In Hawaii, file with BC/BSSC also, but at P.O. Box 100599, ZIP code 29501-0599. This office does not have a toll-free number, but can be reached at (803) 665-0700.

BC/BSSC also serves Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Maryland, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, Washington (state), Washington, DC, and Wyoming. Additionally, BC/BSSC covers adjunctive dental claims worldwide, except for OCHAMPUSEUR, California and Hawaii.

Send claims for care, including dental, received in Europe, Africa and the Middle East to:

-- OCHAMPUSEUR
144 Karlsruhe Strasse
6900 Heidelberg, West Germany
(or APO New York 09102)
Heidleberg Military (2122) 575/633
The Uniformed Services Benefit Plans, Inc. (USBPI),

Columbus, IN 47202, receives claims for care rendered in the states of Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin Physicians Service (WPS), Madison, WI, is the appropriate CHAMPUS contractor for Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Puerto Rico, the Pacific Area (China, Thailand, Korea, Australia, Japan, etc), Canada, Mexico, Central America, South America, Bermuda and the West Indies.

BC/BSSC, USBPI and WPS have several different offices to handle claims, depending on where you received care. For instance, WPS claims from Alabama would go to WPS, P.O. Box 7986, Madison, WI 53707-7986. That office's number is 1-800-866-6337. Claims for care received in Louisiana would be sent to WPS, P.O. Box 8934, Madison, WI 53708-8934; 1-800-388-6767. USBPI claims for Illinois would go to USBPI, P.O. Box 3054, Columbus, IN 47202-3054; 1-800-842-4333. For Maine, the USBPI post office box is 3064 and the ZIP code is 47202-3064. The phone number for all USBPI claims offices is 1-800-842-4333.

Contact the health benefits advisor at your local medical treatment facility to determine the appropriate office's phone number, post office box and 9-digit ZIP code.

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HEADLINE: Medical Materiel Manager of the Year Sought

BUMED Washington (NSMN) -- The Surgeon General's Specialty Advisor for Materiel Logistics CAPT Tom Defibaugh, MSC, is seeking nominations for the 1993 Navy Medical Materiel Manager of the Year.

Be on the lookout for officers (O-4 or below), enlisted or civilian employees you feel deserve the award, and nominate them! But hurry, deadline for nominations is 1 December 1993.

Nominations should include information as follows:

1. Name of nominee.
2. Summary of Justification (briefly address all elements)
 - a. Individual accomplishments or awards received.
 - b. Professional competence -- leadership, technical expertise.
 - c. Procedures or methods developed by the individual that resulted in significant reduction of manhours, materiel or monetary expenditure, etc.
 - d. Organization perspective -- reputation, responsiveness, education and training.
 - e. Position responsibility -- management ability, customer service.
3. Conclude with any additional material that may be helpful.
4. Signature of person making recommendation.

Submit nominations (by 1 December) to: CAPT Tom Defibaugh, MSC, USN, Deputy Assistant Chief for Logistics, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (MED-04B), Washington, DC 20372-5300. If you have any questions, you can call him at (202) 653-1202; DSN 294-1202.

HEADLINE: Cases of Adolescent Child Abuse Increasing

AMA Chicago (NSMN) -- The most recent information shows that in 1991, there were more than 2.5 million cases of child abuse reported to child protective service agencies, and that adolescents comprise a substantial proportion of those cases, according to a report published in this week's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The report, titled "Adolescents as Victims of Family Violence," was prepared by the AMA's Council on Scientific Affairs (CSA). The report quotes figures from the Annual Fifty State Survey conducted by the National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse.

The most recent survey shows that in 1991, reported child abuse occurred at a rate of 42 cases of maltreatment per 1,000 children. All surveys using official reports showed an increase in the number of reported cases of abuse between 1980 and 1991.

The CSA report also said that in 1990, more than 208,000 youths between the ages of 12 and 17 were reported to child protective service agencies as victims of abuse. This represented 25 percent of all cases reported.

Based on its report, the CSA made several recommendations, which were adopted by the AMA House of Delegates at its Annual Meeting in June 1992. They include:

- That the AMA use its communications mechanisms to encourage physicians to screen adolescents about a current or prior history of maltreatment. Special attention should be paid to screening adolescents with a history of alcohol and other drug misuse, irresponsible sexual behavior, eating disorders, running away, suicidal behaviors, conduct disorders or psychiatric disorders for prior occurrences of maltreatments.

It also urged physicians to consider issues unique to adolescents when screening youths for abuse or neglect.

- That the AMA encourage state medical society violence prevention committees to work with child protective service agencies to develop specialized services for maltreated adolescents, including better access to health services, improved foster care, expanded shelter and independent-living facilities, and treatment programs.

- That the AMA investigate research and resources on effective parenting of adolescents to identify ways in which physicians can promote parenting styles that reduce stress and promote optimal development.

- That the AMA alert the national school organizations to the increasing incidence of adolescent maltreatment and the need for training of school staff to identify and refer victims of maltreatment.

- That the AMA urge youth correctional facilities to screen incarcerated youth for a current or prior history of abuse and neglect and to refer maltreated youth to appropriate medical or mental health treatment programs.

HEADLINE: HEALTHWATCH: Posters Available Targeting Snuff Users

HHS Bethesda, MD (NSMN) -- The Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute of Dental Research, and the National Cancer Institute have developed two posters that illustrate the dangers of smokeless tobacco, also called spit tobacco. The posters were judged to be the most effective of eight that were pretested with major and minor league baseball players as well as college athletes. The posters have been distributed to military dental clinics and health promotion officers. For additional sets, free of charge, write to:

National Institute of Dental Research

National Institutes of Health

31/2C35

Bethesda, MD 20892

ATTN: Spit-Tobacco Posters

The Great American Smokeout is 18 November, but we don't want people to clear the air by going to smokeless tobacco. Get these posters up soon!

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4. Events occurring 24-31 October and November observances:
October

24 October: USMC Marathon, Arlington, VA; (703) 640-2225

24-30 October: National Adult Immunization Awareness Week

24-30 October: National Pharmacy Week

24 October: United Nations Day

25-31 October: National Pastoral Care Week

31 October: Daylight-Saving Time Ends (set clocks back one hour)

31 October: Halloween

31 October: LCDR FitReps due

November

American Heart Disease Prevention Month

Child Safety and Protection Month

National Diabetes Month

National Epilepsy Awareness Month

Aviation History Month

American Indian Heritage Month

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5. ADDRESSEES ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AND NEWS ITEMS OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OR BENEFICIARY INTEREST (IN STORY FORMAT) BY TELEPHONE, FAX OR E-MAIL TO BUMED, ATTN: EDITOR, NAVAL SERVICE MEDICAL NEWS (MED 00P2). TELEPHONE (202) 653-1315; DSN 294-1315. FAX (202) 653-0086; DSN 294-0086. E-MAIL NMCOENL@BUMED10.MED.NAVY.MIL.

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